



# U P D A T E

## St. Lucie County

July 15, 2004

### A Monthly Update of Current Events and Happenings within St. Lucie County

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#### **Board of County Commission Meeting Changes & Workshops Scheduled**

- The July 20, 2004 Board of County Commissioners meeting has been canceled.
- A special Board of County Commission meeting will take place on Thursday, July 22, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers at the Roger Poitras Administration Annex at 2300 Virginia Avenue in Fort Pierce to address items related to the jail and the Sheriff's budget.
- A Lincoln Park Summit will be held on July 22nd from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Lincoln Park Academy Auditorium, 1806 Avenue I, to address and improve the economic conditions of the Lincoln Park neighborhoods.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a workshop to discuss Environmentally Sensitive Lands/Greenways/Open Space Potential Purchases on Wednesday, August 25, 2004 from 1:00 until 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room #3 of the Roger Poitras Administration Annex at 2300 Virginia Avenue in Fort Pierce.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a workshop with Indian River County to discuss growth issues on Monday, September 20, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at the Richardson Center located at the Indian River Community College Mueller Campus, 6155 College Lane, Vero Beach, (772) 569-0333.

#### **Office of Management & Budget Wins Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) announced that St. Lucie County's Office of Management and Budget has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget for the sixth consecutive year. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, St. Lucie County had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. The Government Finance Officers Association is a non-profit professional association serving 14,000 government finance professionals throughout North America. The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting.

#### **Adams Ranch Becomes the Set for the New Animal Planet Reality Show**

Adams Ranch in western St. Lucie County is the backdrop for the new season of the popular Animal Planet reality show: "King of the Jungle," which premieres July 20 from 8:00-10:00 p.m. Evolution Film & Tape, Inc., which was hired by Animal Planet to produce the reality show, spent more than 100 days in St. Lucie County filming two seasons of "King of the Jungle." All of the footage for season two and three was shot at Adams Ranch, using the hardwood hammocks and open prairies to create a jungle look. Officials with Evolution arrived in St. Lucie County in late April and began the task of transforming several hundred acres of the Adams property into a television set, building campsites, creating production offices and designing challenges for the contestants. The film project generated more than 2,200 hotel room nights in St. Lucie County with a crew of more than 70 including cameramen, lighting and sound operators, production assistants and coordinators. Evolution hired more than a dozen local residents to work as carpenters, production assistants and administrative staff for the project. The company also hired local emergency medical technicians and county extension agents to help with safety concerns. For more information about "King of the Jungle 2," visit [www.animalplanet.com](http://www.animalplanet.com).

This update is published monthly by the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners' Public Information Office. Direct inquiries to Linette Trabulsy, Public Information Officer, St. Lucie County, 2300 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL 34982, 772.462.1791, 772.462.2131 Fax, [Trabulsi@co.st-lucie.fl.us](mailto:Trabulsi@co.st-lucie.fl.us)

### **July & August Events at the Oxbow Eco-Center**

**St. Lucie River Tour Guided Canoe/Kayak Tours ~ Saturday, July 17** from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. ~ Come on out and enjoy the beautiful St. Lucie River. Cost is \$10 per person. Pre-payment is required. Children ages 5-7 are free.

**St. Lucie Regional Herpetological Society ~ Wednesday, July 21** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. ~ Join the members of St. Lucie's premier herp society to learn about snakes, lizards, frogs and more.

**Project Wild Workshop for Teachers ~ Wednesday, July 21** ~ 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. ~ Project Wild is a free science-related program that focuses on wildlife education. It offers lesson plans and unique, innovative activities correlated to Sunshine State Standards. Space is limited. Call (772) 785-5833 to register.

**Beach Clean-Up ~ Saturday, August 28** ~ 8:00 a.m.-noon ~ Think globally and ACT locally! Join in the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual International Beach Clean-up and be part of clean-ups taking place across the globe sponsored by OneWildWorld. Interested participants should meet at Surfside Park on South Hutchinson to pick up data card, bags and gloves. Post Clean-up Party is being held at Jaycee Park. Call Lee Hedrick at (772) 336-9252 or email her at OneWildWorld@aol.com for more information and to RSVP.

### **Additional Court Fees Approved**

The St. Lucie County Commissioners adopted a resolution to impose a \$65 fee on people convicted of criminal charges to help finance the courts. The money collected will be divided to fund legal aid programs, personnel and legal materials for the public as part of a law library, teen court programs, juvenile assessment centers and new equipment.

### **Adams Ranch Equestrian Center Donation Accepted**

The Ginn Company donated \$66,540 to St. Lucie County for the construction of bucking chutes, a roping chute and pens at the Adams Ranch Equestrian Center located at the St. Lucie County Fairgrounds on Midway Road. Construction on the new 75,000 square foot center began in January 2004 and is expected to be completed in August. The \$1.1 million project was funded by a \$350,000 donation from Mr. Alto "Bud" Adams for naming rights, and the rest of the funding is from Investment for the Future funds and loan proceeds. The contractor for the project is the Ahrens Company. The center will be available for equestrian events such as barrel racing, horse shows and rodeos and will also be available for other types of events such as concerts.

### **Marine Center Offers Free Behind-The-Scenes Tours**

The St. Lucie County Marine Center offers **free** Behind-The-Scenes tours every Saturday at 2:00 p.m. The Marine Center is located at 420 Seaway Drive in Fort Pierce. These tours are especially for those interested in the inner workings of a public aquarium. People with their own aquariums or interested in keeping aquariums as a hobby will especially enjoy the tours. The tours take place entirely in the Exhibit staff's work areas. Visitors are encouraged to come a little early or stay a little later to relate the Exhibit's public areas with what they've seen behind-the-scenes. The tours last approximately 45 minutes and reservations are recommended, but not required. For questions about the tours, call the Marine Center at (772) 465-3271.

### **Ravenswood Pool Re-opened**

The St. Lucie County Ravenswood Pool, located at 200 Ravenswood Lane in Port St. Lucie, re-opened on Monday, July 12 after three months of renovation. The \$226,000 project began in March 2004 and included a new pool deck and pool floor, a new filter and chlorination system. Aquatics programs and regularly scheduled activities include adult open swim, children's swim lessons, summer camp swim time and open swim time Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and open swim time in the afternoons Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. For swim lesson information and registration, call (772) 871-2183.

John Bruhn, District 1 • Doug Coward, District 2 • Paula A. Lewis, District 3 • Frannie Hutchinson, District 4 • Cliff Barnes, District 5

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